

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1.     A handheld computer, comprising:  
2                 a housing;  
3                 a display supported by the housing;  
4                 computing electronics supported by the housing and  
5     configured to communicate with the display;  
6                 at least two light sensors configured to provide input to the  
7     computing electronics;  
8                 wherein the computing electronics are configured to adjust at  
9     least one of a brightness factor of the display and a contrast factor of the  
10    display based on the input of the at least two light sensors.
- 1           2.     The handheld computer of claim 1, wherein the at least two  
2     light sensors are disposed near opposing edges of the display.
- 1           3.     The handheld computer of claim 1, wherein the at least two  
2     light sensors further comprise four light sensors disposed on corners of a  
3     perimeter of the display.
- 1           4.     The handheld computer of claim 3, wherein the at least two  
2     light sensors are photoelectric sensors.
- 1           5.     The handheld computer of claim 4, wherein the computing  
2     electronics are configured to adjust the brightness factor and the contrast  
3     factor of the display based on the input of the at least two light sensors  
4     by averaging the at least two signals to generate a control signal.
- 1           6.     The handheld computer of claim 5, further comprising  
2     providing the average of the at least two signals to an algorithm  
3     configured to generate a control signal.

1           7.     The handheld computer of claim 1, wherein the display is  
2     one of an LCD and a TFT display.

1           8.     A method for controlling a display in a mobile electronic  
2     device, comprising:  
3                 providing a first signal indicative of lighting conditions at a  
4     first position relative to the display device;  
5                 providing a second signal indicative of lighting conditions at a  
6     second position relative to the display device;  
7                 generating a control signal based on the first and second  
8     signals; and  
9                 adjusting at least one of a brightness factor of the display  
10    device and an intensity factor of the display device using the control  
11    signal.

1           9.     The method of claim 8, wherein generating a control signal  
2     further comprises averaging the first and second signals.

1           10.    The method of claim 8, wherein generating a control signal  
2     further comprises accessing a look up table based on the first and second  
3     signals to determine the control signal.

1           11.    The method of claim 8, wherein generating a control signal  
2     further comprises providing the first and second signals to an algorithm  
3     configured to determine the control signal.

1           12.    The method of claim 8, wherein generating a control signal  
2     further comprises generating a brightness control signal and a contrast  
3     control signal.

1           13. A method for controlling the display of a mobile electronic  
2 device, comprising:  
3           providing a first signal indicative of lighting conditions at a  
4 first position relative to the display device;  
5           providing a second signal indicative of lighting conditions at a  
6 second position relative to the display device;  
7           providing a third signal indicative of lighting conditions at a  
8 third position relative to the display device;  
9           providing a fourth signal indicative of lighting conditions at a  
10 fourth position relative to the display device;  
11          generating a control signal using the first, second, third and  
12 fourth signals; and  
13          adjusting at least one of a brightness factor of the display  
14 device and an intensity factor of the display device using the control  
15 signal.

1           14. The method of claim 13, wherein generating a control signal  
2 further comprises averaging the first, second, third and fourth signals.

1           15. The method of claim 13, wherein generating a control signal  
2 further comprises accessing a look up table based on the first, second,  
3 third and fourth signals to determine the control signal.

1           16. The method of claim 13, wherein generating a control signal  
2 further comprises providing the first, second, third and fourth signals to  
3 an algorithm configured to determine the control signal.

1           17. The method of claim 13, wherein generating a control signal  
2 further comprises generating a brightness control signal and a contrast  
3 control signal.